advertising.

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Weather Forecast for Friday. Washington, Sept. 16.-Weather forecast

For Oklahoma and Indian Territory-Showers early in morning, followed by fair;

For Missouri-Fair, preceded by showers in southeast portion; cooler; north winds. For Kansas-Generally fair; north winds.

OUR EXPORT RECORD BROKEN.

Everybody knew that prosperity was coming and everybody now knows that it is here; but no one was looking for the breaking of records so early in the new administration. Yet in the report of the bureau of statistics of the treasury department for the month of August, the gratifying fact is revealed that our exports were larger than ever before in the history of the country for the same month. They aggregated \$79,497,820, a gain of \$12,-807.939 over August of last year. For the eight months ending August 31, there has been a gain of \$62,217,387 over the corresponding period of last year. The imports for August amounted to only \$39,876,-640, the smallest aggregate since 1879. This shows an excess of exports over imports amounting to \$40,000,000. No wonder we are prospering when we are receiving \$40,-600,000 more for what we sell abroad than we are paying for what we buy abroad. Making any allowance that reason may ask for the foreign shortage and domestic abundance, the indisputable fact remains that much credit belongs to the present management of our industrial affairs.

THE CHICAGO PLATFORM ELEPHANT After the Chicago convention, it will be remembered, there was much interest throughout the country as to what the Democracy of New York would do with the extraordinary platform upon which Mr Bryan was nominated. It will also be remembered that the state organization decided to stand by the national declara-

These reflections are interesting at this time, because the Democratic state committee of New York, in accord with Tammany Hall, has refused to have anything to do with the Chicago platform. The free silverites made a powerful effort to get a reaffirmation of Bryanism, but were courteously but emphatically turned down.

True, there was no resolution bearing upon national policies, either for or against those expressed at Chicago; but the careful avoidance of the subject demonstrates very clearly that the Bryan elephant must be unloaded. What will take its place remains to be seen; but the huge quadruped, which was the leading feature of last year's circuses, has had his day. The managers are convinced that he will not "draw" a second

## WHAT WILL MR. SIMONDS DO?

If we understand Alderman Simonds, he submitted the North Terrace park question to his conscience and gave himself up to its dictates. His conscience told him that the whole park system was a millionaires' dream and an imposition upon the industrial classes. It told him that the North terrace project was an outrage and one of the results of a conspiracy of the rich to profit at the expense of the poor. It told him to disregard the will of his constituents, expressed in an almost unanimous petition representing all classes of citizens. It told him that his opinion was worth more than the unanimous convictions of 2,500 residents of his own ward. It told him that he should not vote in favor of the North Terrace park, no matter how much the city needed it, no matter how loudly the public approved it and no matter how urgently his constituents demanded it.

Alderman Simonds has announced that he will obey his conscience; that he cannot, in violation of this monitor, vote for this improvement. It is not strange, therefore, that the people who elected him to represent their interests and observe their wishes, expect him to resign the office he cannot conscientiously fill. The only consistent thing left for the alderman to do is to make room for someone who will and can represent the people of the Seventh ward. It does not matter what are his legal rights to remain and oppose his constituents, nor does it matter what precedent there is for such a line of action This is a matter of conscience. The alderman has made it so. The public is inclined to have great respect for a conscience that is consistent, even if it is warped or prejudiced. But in this instance the people have no faith in a conscience too sensitive to be governed by their expressed wishes and at the same time too tough to avoid the necessity of opposing their behests. What will the good Mr. Simonds do?

### UNKIND FORAKER.

If Senator Foreker carries out his report. ed intention of challenging William J. Bryun to meet him in joint debate, as a feature of the forthcoming Ohlo campaign, he will be guilty of a merciless bit of cruelty. Bryan wants to appear thoroughly fearless, and he could hardly ignore the challenge of a man in the high official and political station becupied by Mr. Foraker. Yet he would be very loath to do otherwise.

The senator's justification, of course, lies in the fact that Mr. Bryan is constantly throwing down the gauntlet to his political opponents in the course of his numerous and profitable lectures. But a lecturer has some license, accorded him by common consent, that is not generally given to the debater. Mr. Bryan, both in his campaign work and his lecture business, hus been characterized by reckless, and sometimes ridiculous, self-sufficiency. He has rarely been put to the task of immediate and direct rebuttal. When he was making a fight for the presidency he was buoyed up by numerous balloons, inflated with sophis tries, prejudices and misrepresentations. He soared majestically, and there were some who were mightily impressed by his flight, but who did not analyze the perishable

quality of his inflation. One by one his balloons have been punctured, until his whole flying machine has collapsed, and he has been spending his time belittling the grayity of the wreck and trying to fix the responsibility.

To challenge a man who finds himself in this dilemma would be almost as bad as hitting a fellow when he is down. It is like drawing a sword and daring one who has been completely disarmed.

WILL MR. OVERMYER EXPLAIN?

Orator Overmyer, of Topeka, has written an article for that Populist organ, the Arena magazine, touching upon Democracy, trusts, monopolies, land pirates farming, gold standard, and various other pared to marry when they are drawing

topics. As an orator and as a rhetorician Mr. Overmyer is quite a success. He has a voice like the many sounding sea-vast, protund, reverberating. He has a rhetor-Building, New York, sole agent for foreign ical style quite in keeping with his voice. Words fall from his tongue like snowflakes, and sometimes like Kansas hailstones. He resembles Mr. Bryan in sev-

eral particulars. He is an orator. A certain learned judge, after listening to a long and beautiful oratorical argument which had nothing to do with the case and which in its entire length contained no accurate statement of truth on any subject, let fall the following observation: "The greater the orator the greater the fool." This was an extreme statement and it does not apply to Mr. Overmyer, but nevertheless we are somewhat reminded of it in perusing Mr. Overmyer's latest

efforts. In the course of his article Mr. Overmyer says: "The land pirates have selzed the great marts to which the farmers' produce must go, and thus monopolizing the avenues through which this produce must reach the consumer, cornering opportunity, fencing in the fountain and bestriding the stream, they dismiss the bewildered farmer with a pittance and the bland assurance that all things go by the great law of supply and demand, and proceed to reap such profits as the wants of a world will afford."

Mr. Overmyer and other politicians of his class have been for several years sedulously endeavoring to make voters believe that the law of supply and demand has nothing to do with anything. That it no longer has any effect upon the price of wheat or silver or any other commodity, if it ever did have any effect, and that a few persons variously denominated as pirates, plutocrats and monopolists, through legislation and otherwise now control and regulate the prices of all commodities.

Mr. Overmyer's article was written before wheat begun to sell for a dollar a bushel in gold, and before the recent general advance in all farm products.

Of course Mr. Overmyer and his school are right. Of course the law of supply and demand has nothing to do with anything. A few piratical plutocrats through legislation and otherwise do control prices. But it will now be in order for Mr. Overmyer to explain the sudden burst of generosity on the part of the omnipotent piratical plutocrats. What is the secret? What is the essence of the deep, dark plot? What new chain are they forging by raising the price of wheat to a dollar? We do not dispute the fact that Mr. Hanna is responsible for the enormous advance of farm products, but how is his apparent generosity to be harmonized with his well known malignity toward the struggling masses? To the ordinary mind the problem is a hopeless puzzle, but we know that Mr. Overmyer can, if he will, make t as clear as-mud.

### PEFFER ON PARITY.

Ex-Senator Peffer's paper, the Advocate is the official paper of Kansas and the recognized organ of the Populist party in that state. Upon the editorial page of the Advocate in its issue of this week appears the following-

"A correspondent, writing from Rossville asks a good many questions, and requests the Advocate to answer them. The answer to all the rest depends on the answer to the first question, which reads-" 'Is it possible for the United States to

maintain silver and gold at a parity under free coinage?"

"To which we answer, no." All of which is referred to the free silver Republicans and free silver Democrats of

#### Kansas without comment. EDITORIAL NOTES.

Kansas farmers will not burn their corn this year. They have money to burn.

The Ohio campaign promises to be rather warm affair. Mr. Sherman has decided

The Emporia postoffice question is set tled at last-but Governor Eskridge isn't and he doesn't care who knows it.

The Alaska people needn't have been in such a hurry about closing up the passes Mrs. Lease had no notion of going.

Those Arkansas pearls have been tested and found to be of very low grade-about on a parity with Arkansas politics.

Walter Wellman says General Woodford has the heart of a woman." This is inter-

sting. What's the woman's name? even cool weather," cheerily remarks an

exchange. Um-how about fall overcoats? Mr. Peffer says flatly that silver cannot be kept on a parity with gold. If that be reason, Mr. Peffer doesn't want any office

"This is so sudden!" That is to say, the change in weather. But, like the blushing maid, we accept, because it's what we have

President McKinley has no reason to loubt the sincerity of the officeseekers at Washington when they tell him they are

Senator Billy Mason has cut his hair. In course of time Senator Billy may shave off his habit of telling street corner jokes on

If the weather service has any frost in stock it should send a liberal supply to Jackson, Miss., and vicinity. They badly need it down that way.

Joaquin Miller reports that many die in the Klondike country of heart disease. Those who happen to have hearts would do well to remain at home.

Calamity is a scarce article in Kansas these days, but Governor Leedy doesn't despair. He is thinking of calling a special

Jerry Simpson says the great "plain peo ple" will shake off the yoke. If the great "plain people" find there's a yoke on them, they certainly ought to give it the shake without undue delay. Meantime they might

promote their comfort by shaking off the insects-those of the Jerry stripe. Alderman Simonds' mistake is in sup-

posing the people of his ward elected him to do their thinking for them, instead of carrying out their wishes. Manager Manning says he feels the failure of the Kansas City ball team as much

as anybody. He probably feels it moreespecially when he feels in his pocket. English editors are discussing whether "hung" or "hanged" is the correct word.

That depends. When the jury is hung the prisoner isn't hanged-unless he is lynched. It may not have occurred to Mrs. Char-

lotte Smith that bachelors are better pre-

official salaries than when they are look-

ing around for jobs. Governor Leedy says the people of Kansas are unanimously in favor of Cuban independence. If that is true the duty of the Kansas people is plain. They should

adopt some resolutions. "There is no fear of starvation up this way." writes a Dawson City correspondent. Then there must be very reckless people up that way, for all trustworthy reports agree that the danger of starvation is great.

Because his conscience will not permit him to represent the people of his ward, Alderman Simonds should not insist on remaining in the council to represent somebody else. A conscience in good working order ought to convince Simonds that it is his plain duty to get out.

Mr. Bryan deserves no particular credit for condemning anarchy. There are so few anarchists in this country that their vote is not worth catering to. Mr. Bryan knows t is good politics to preach against the use of the bomb and torch, and he is probably too much of a patriot to countenance such violent methods anyhow. Notwithstanding the fact that he is a tolerably rank demagogue, Mr. Bryan is a fairly good citizen.

#### KANSAS TOPICS.

The advertisements for the Atchison corn carnival declare that "the biggest free lunch will be furnished that has ever been offered to the public since the big picnic of 5,000 in the grove near the Sea of Gal-

The Kansas Populists continue to discuss the bubonic plague in entire neglect of those bonds McKinley was to issue within three months after his inauguration.

Harry Richter declares that he is in favor of an entirely new deal all around. He does not favor the nomination of any man for lieutenant governor who has ever held the office.

pars," said Governor Leedy to a reporter the other day. The governor is mistaken The Populists are now lying in their roars.

The plutocrats of Kansas never miss an

"The Populists are now laying on their

opportunity to hit the Populists a lick The smelter at Iola paid off all its hands in gold the other day. If we understand the compromise propo-

sition of the Populist police commissioners at Topeka, it is this: The joints are to be allowed to run during the fall festival and then everybody is to swear that they didn't It seems as though Kansas would never

ave done with the Anderson Gray hypnotic murder case. At Wichita, on Tuesday, Alfred Gray, a brother of Anderson, commenced suit against A. Dorsey and W. R. Spicknell for \$2,000. He alleges that when Anderson was arrested for murder he paid bond with the understanding that the money was to be refunded when they were released from the bond. They became released when Anderson was convicted and sent to the penitentiary, but it is alleged that they have failed to keep the contract and pay back the money.

The Coffeyville Journal relates that the Creek Indians are now holding their annual ish fry on Snake creek, near Tulsa. They gather a large supply of the roots called 'devil's shoestring" which are then pounded into a pulp and cast upon the water This attracts the fish to the surface and they are speared. Thousands of fish are cought every day and they are fried in huge pans and divided among those pres ent. A number of white people have been attracted to the feast and they are treated as honored guests.

Bent Murdock insists that the Populists shall prove that the advance of 3 cents in the price of jackrabbits is due to the bu onic plague and not to the election of Mc-Kinley, or forever after hold their peace.

Bill Morgan says Governor Eskridge i vatching the methods of the Carlists in Spain very closely, and that he may decide to introduce insurgency at any moment.

A colored woman at Lawrence alleges in

her divorce petition that her husband carries the left hind foot of a black cat and keeps her hoodooed all the time. It is related of an Atchison man that the

nly new thing he bought his wife during ten years of married life was the coffin, Up to date but three men have been au

thoritatively announced as candidates before the Republican convention for a state office. One lives at Manhattan, one at Junction City, and one at Atchison.

Henry E. Sharpe was once a prominent citizen of Eastern Oklahoma, says the Wichita Eagle. Four months after his death his wife remarried. She is now in Kansas poorhouse, while her second husband is in the penitentiary.

Judge Beekman is having a great deal of trouble in heading off the report that he is a candidate for congress. He speaks resentfully, as though there was something discreditable about such an ambition.

Mrs. Charles McAllister, of Abilene, went nto court the other day and testified that she had been compelled to shingle her hair close to the scalp in order to prevent her husband from pulling it out by the roots. He had a fashion, she said, of dragging her around the floor by the hair. He was sent to jail in default of a big fine.

A man and wife and daughter recently

put up at a hotel in Ottawa. After two weeks' stay they left in the night without paying their bill. Upon investigation the landlady found the hems and other remnants of a lot of sheets and pillow cases hid about their room. They had evidently ised the hotel linen in making up a lot of underclothes. People who have visited Western Kansas in the fall know what the "tumble weed"

s It rolls across the prairie before the ver an obstruction is encountered. Near Oakley the other day these weeds piled themselves into a cut on the Union Pacific allroad and literally choked the machinery of the locomotive which ran into them. It took the train hands several hours to clean things up so the train could proceed. Will White, Victor Murdock and Ed

who know how to write about the boy. Ed Howe would leave the report of a national convention out of his paper to make com for a piece about a boy. Here is a piece he printed yesterday; "Reddy Ostertag, the Northwest Atchison, did some detective

Howe are the three Kansas literary fellows

ing. Reddy is about 15 years old, and can turn a back somersault and swim across the river. Reddy is freckled, but the color of his hair will be charitably left to the imagination of the reader. We will only state the color is unusually brilliant. Reddy can win tickets as fast as a sissy boy can buy them, and can throw a curve as big as a rainbow. He has read the 'Old Sleuth' series until there is not a trick in the detective profession that he does not know. He has also read all about 'Gentleman Joe, 'Diamond Dick,' 'Frank Merrill' and 'Frank Reade,' and what he does not know would make terribly dry reading. This morning he heard that Ham & Martin's store, on North Ninth street, had been robbed of some cigarettes and bacon He hurried to the scene of the robbery. The experienced eye of the human ferret saw tracks in the mud. He thought a moment, while a crowd of other boys who had gathered watched him, completely overawed. A sudden light showed through his freekles; he had an idea. He hurried here and there, the other boys following a respectful distance behind. Reddy did not see them; the sleuth was too much occuoled. Finally he followed off a trail in the mud. Securing information which satisfied him, he rushed to the police station and the police soon made an arrest."

In the telegraphic account of the fright 'ul wreck at Newcastle, Col., the other day, appeared the following: "The charred re mains of two women, apparently clasped in each other's arms, were found. eads and lower limbs were burned off. In the dress bosom of each was found a ladies' gold watch, upon one of which was inscribed 'From Mother to Mamie.' " Commenting on this the Atchison Cham

ion says: The "Mamie" mentioned in that telegram was Miss Mamle Johnston, eldest daughter of Thomas W. Johnston, for many years treasurer of Nemaha county, and afterward president of the Bank of Nemaña County at Seneca, Miss Johnston noved with her parents to Pasadena, Cal. cme years ago. Mr. Johnston is now cash ler in the Pomona National bank. Miss Johnston had been a teacher in the Pomona high school several terms. This season she visited friends at her birthplace in Illinois, and then went to Seneca where she had ived for many years and where she visited friends a month, starting home via Colorado, and was on the ill-fated train, where she was burned to death in that furnace of

The Oklahoma law prohibits the marriage of girls under 16 or boys under 18 unless they are able to produce the written consent of their parents-which statement is sufficient as an introductory to the following story from the Guthrie Capital:

Last night, just as Probate Judge Foster as making arrangements to close his office for the night, a young man and blushng young girl drove up to the county The young man helped the girl out of the carriage and slipped his arm about her waist to keep her from falling. Judge Foster has had considerable experience and knew what was coming. The couple entered the office and requested to be ide man and wife. The judge looked at the blushing maiden and then at the youthful face of the man and concluded they were too young to be married. The maiden produced the written consent of her par-ents, and said she was only sweet 16. Here s where the trouble began. When the young man's age was asked he promptly inswered 17. Judge Foster swallowed arge lump in his throat and told him the law prohibited the marriage of boys under 18, hence he would be compelled to wait one short summer. The girl wept, the boy looked as if he would like to have the mar who framed that law by the neck-but there was no remedy for it, and they left the office, got in the carriage and started for home, the most unhappy lovers in the land.

### MISSOURI POINTS.

Trenton seems to have an excellent pros pect for securing the general offices of the new Quincy & Omaha line. Free rent for ive years or a bonus of \$5,000 in cash is asked by the railroad people.

An astonishing showing in the matter of enrollment was made at the opening of the Lexington colleges last week, the increase among the several institutions averaging more than 100 per cent over last year. The St. Joe News heartlessly calls atten

tion to the fact that "McKinley's protracted vacation means an additional two weeks are camping on the White House doorstep.'

Any one interested in the matter as to the locality whence the good people come houldn't fall to make a note of the fact that six students from Northwest Missouri Princeton, N. J., this fall.

The importance of the mining industry at Lexington may be inferred from the statement that the pay roll of one among the several companies operating there amount-ed to \$18,000 last month. The miners are all steadily employed and have work enough ahead now to keep them busy until the first of the year.

Mrs. Zerelda Samuels was in Kearney shopping a few days ago, the Clipper says and seemed to be enjoying excellent health for one of her age. Mrs. Samuels says there were 240 strangers at her home during the month of August to see the grave of her son, Jesse James, and to look at the curiosities about the premises. She finds it quite a task to entertain and explain to the numerous visitors all they wish to know.

the publisher of the St. Joseph News, has recently become the owner of the Tacoma Ledger, one of the leading papers on the Northwest coast. Another former Missouri nan, too, is prominent in newspaper circles in that part of the country, Mr. Durham, who was an Atchison county boy and learned his trade in the office of the Rock Port Journal, being the editor of the Re publican paper at Spokane, the Spokesman-

Buchanan and Platte counties are to appear shortly in the respective roles of plaintiff and defendant in a lawsuit, the point at issue arising out of a contention that the latter should pay the costs in-volved in connection with the case of Record, the insane murderer, he having beer a citizen of Platte county, although the tragedy occurred in Buchanan. Some questions may have to be adjudicated, it is said which have never previously been brought before a Missouri court.

Admirers of his over in the Third dis-trict who has dubbed John Dougherty a "dalsy," and have expressed a hope that he might come to the front some time to the extent his talents seemed to warrant, apparently haven't half grasped the situa ion. John is a whole basketful, in fact, a 'scarlet mantle" full of beautiful, swee smelling posies, if his enthusiastic friend, the editor of the Kearney Clipper, is not misinformed: "He is a bouquet of himself, made up of those flowers whose emblems denote purity, and whose fragrance denote love and affection. These, combined with his learning, ability and personal address so eminently fit him for that service for his people to which he now aspires that no hadow of opposition ought to arise to cloud his nomination. The scarlet mantle f congressional honors worn so faithfully by Mr. Dockery for sixteen years must necessarily fall upon the shoulders of another at some time in the future, and if any manin the grand old Third district is worthy to receive that honor it is John Dough-

William G. Martin, of Missourl, is the latest if not the first contribution, the Springfield Leader says, to Judge Lynch's court at Juneau. Alaska. William was among those who rushed to the gold fields without due preparation. He had miscalculated as to the amount of provisions, per capita, necessary for the trip; or he had been unable to secure the same, and started without them. However this may he the fact remains that William found

but flour and bacon. Possibly William had been in that condition before, and it is barely possible that he was not without experience in foraging. The second day after his arrival it was noticed that the Missouri pilgrim had sugar for his coffee and a side of bacon in his camp. It was known that he did not bring these articles with him, and that he had tried to purchase them the day before and failed. However, another camper had missed coffee and bacon from his stock. It was natural that putting these things together the Missourian should fall under the ban of suspicion The fact that the side of bacon had been branded with a private mark, and that a poor attempt had been made to obliterate it. was evidence strong as Holy Writ to the other campers. The committee reported the facts to the few campers who had not yet turned in, and, although it was late, the entire camp was quietly aroused and a miners' meeting was organized around the fire. It was the general sentiment of those present that an example be made of Martin. "I move that we hang the man, and do it quick," said one. There was no response to this suggestion, but the miners, numbering about sixty men, moved off into the brush, where Martin's dying campfire could be seen dimly flickering. In the gray mists of the following morning Martin's body was found dangling in the air, his hands tied behind him. And thus Missouri enters early into the history hereafter to be written of the Klondike country. A full page cut of Martin as he last appeared on earth will be sufficient to make his memory famous Meanwhile he has served his state as an example of the unfortunate results attending the appropriation of coffee and bacor belonging to others in the far off Alaska country.

### The Bicycle and the Horse.

From the New York Sun This is a great year for the bicyclists particularly the racers, and their perform-ances have created unusual interest during the last few weeks. Lighter and more speedy wheels have been propelled by stronger and more flexible muscles; and the champion of to-day is the possessor of

much grit, agility and endurance

For a long while the cyclist and the horse have been almost neck and neck in the race against time, and the question of which, under like circumstances, is really the short distances has caused a faster good deal of speculation. The lithe-limbed footed competitor steadily for the world's record. Last week he succeeded in win-ning it. J. W. Stocks, a well known rider, covered a mile at Crystal palace, London, in 1:35 2-5, thereby beating the one mile record of 1:351/2 made by the famous running horse Salvator several years ago.

Prior to Stock's performance, the wheel's best record was 1:37 2-5, made by the English expert, J. Platt Betts. His achievement clipped nearly a second from the record made by McDuffie, the Bostonian, less than a week before. Until McDuffle lowered the mark, the wheel's one mile championship had been held for over a year by W. W. Hamilton, who rode a mile at

Although Stock's performance beats the next best effort by two seconds, there are plenty of American flyers who believe that he new record will soon be eclipsed. Stocks, it is said, was paced by very fast multicycles, which doubtless assisted him greatly. Some of our American wheelmen are confident enough to assert that, with equally favorable pacing, a record of 1:35 within the ability of more than half a dozen experts on this side of the water. At any rate, the 1:351/2 mark of Salvator, which was for a long time aimed at by ambitious riders, has been reached, and the glory belongs to the cyclist and his steel-

frame companion. Whatever laurels the wheel may win hereafter, it is scarcely o be expected that the horse will be able to regain his former superiority. But of the ability of American wheelmen to bring back to this country the one mile paced bicycle record there is reason to feel perfeetly sure. If it isn't accomplished this season, there are other bright days coming. Our racing men certainly cannot afford to yield, at least without a desperate struggle, the supremacy which, up to only short time ago, had been maintained for a period of six years.

### No Prospect of Cheaper Wheat.

From the Chicago Times-Herald. The growing efficiency of the agricultural department under the administration of Secretary Wilson is evidenced by the increasing value of the crop bulletins that are sent out every month by the crop staistician. These monthly reports are com piled from the latest information concernng actual crop conditions gleaned from al quarters of the globe. For the first time since the organization of the department it may be said that these crop reports have something of the authoritative weight that attaches to the English and the Hungarian crop reports.

The monthly crop bulletin issued from Washington vesterday estimates the shortage in the European wheat crop at 113,000,-000 bushels, an estimate that is based or the average for the last six years. Although high prices for wheat have been bringing out supplies quite freely, and the increased supplies have in turn reacted upon the prices, causing some decline from highest August figures, it is the opinion of Cros Statistician Hyde that there is no fear of any material cheapening of wheat until an other crop is in sight.

This year, the European crop, according to Bromhall's Corn Trade News, will amount to 1,329,000,000 Winchester bushels, or 99,000,000 bushels less than the average for the past six years. If comparison is made with the figures given by Beerbohm for 1897 the deficiency in the European crop s greater, the figures being:

Average for 1891-96, bushels......1,428,000,000 Crop of 1897, bushels............1,315,000,000

Difference, bushels..... . 113,000,000 According to Beerbohm, therefore, the European deficiency this year is 113,000,000 bushels as compared with the average

product for six years.

Reports from India, Argentina and Australia indicate that little help can be expected from these countries in making up the deficiency, while Canada's contribution will be relatively small. Leaving out of view the fact that the burden of supply for Europe will fall more largely than us ual upon the United States, it is evident from the government reports that there would in any case be a demand for a larger surplus than can be supplied by this year's crop. The slight probability of any cheapening in the price of wheat until another crop is in sight makes the outlook for the American farmer a very promising one.

### Growth of Street Car Traffic.

From the Chicago Post. A report has just been published by the state railroad commissioners of Massachu setts which tends to concentrate attention for the time being to the marvelous growth of street railroad traffic in the last ten years. According to this report the total number of passengers carried by the street car lines in that state in 1887 was about 124,000,000. In 1896 it had risen to 297,900,000. The average number of passengers per trip increased in the same time from fortyfour to sixty-nine. With this increase in the number of passengers carried came ; still greater one in proportion in the earnings of the companies. These more than quadrupled in the decade under consideration, notwithstanding a considerable re duction in the rate per mile charged for the transportation of the passengers. What has taken place in Massachusetts

has occurred in a still more striking de gree in connection with all the large cities of the country. Ten years ago in Chicago for example, there was not a single electric street car line in operation within the city limits. Indeed, the presidents of some of the leading companies were decrying the agitation of the question and were arguing that for heavy traffic such as the companies here had to carry the introduction of electricity was a practical absurdity Now every available street in the city that had not previously been furnished with the work for the police department this morn- himself in Juneau with everything in sight cable system has been laid hold of by the

companies and d with electricity They are all er sorry that they ever heard of theystem. In no other city in the cours the extension of the electric stresystem been mor

rapid than in Ch New York alseen a very rapid growth in this 6. From 1871 until 1876 the street raraffle of that city increased from 0 to 526,192,663. In 1872 the traffic elevated roads in Gotham consister,000 passengers; ir 1896 it had grows, 703,635 passengers. Meantime the transportation i these Eastern cli greatly decreased. The dollar, whiche introduction of electricity as a power would pay ficient to carrypassenger over 335 miles. Yet the is still in its infancy. The nextears will probably see more startlinges in the course of its developmen the last have done

#### Wholesale B of Prisoners.

From the Chicag A rather parad effect threatens to be produced by ion of the Georgia supreme court. Intrinsic justice of which will hard questioned. abominable and ng system of leasing convicts to p contractors, which has given rise tomore revolting than any known in the days of Southern slavery at its wors been declared unconstitutional, arcontracts with pri vate individuals he control of con vict labor are, the, null and void.

Naturally the cs now in charge of contractors can based by habeas cor-

pus proceedings. first case in which the method has successfully applied is that of a negrotly convicted of lar ceny and sentenetwelve months' im prisonment or to syment of a \$50 fine The convict was our to pay the fine and had to go to . The sheriff, however, promptly sol for a year to a contractor operating sentine distillery, for \$72. Under the ne court decision certain lawyer and before Judge Shef field, of Atlanta, moved for an order freeing the negroe point made was that, though the act was illegal, the payment of \$72 fo convict by the con ractor carried ouniternative the sentence impon fine, and that, the \$50 having been phe prisoner was titled to freedome court adopted the view and releasednegro.

Similar proceedare now threatened all over the stam every case where the state has recommoney for the convict's labor the ractor must release the prisoner, while state has no right to take him backrison. Whether the money can be reed from the state is different questilt probably cannot; but even if it cope recovered the released convicts w not be liable to be sent back to seput their sentences The situation is & but the abrogation of the pernicioustem is a matter for congratulation. Ibrutality to which convicts sold to tractors have been subjected can he be described, and the Southern press vigorously agitated for the abolition ovate convict camps.

### Austral Railways.

From the Chicagones-Herald. A correspondentning himself "Trav-eler" sends in scinteresting information bearing on thestion of government ownership of rails. He says that the freight and passerrates on the government railways ofw South Wales "are about double whaey are in this country." "And," he inues, "the passenger ervice for which American prices are paid is far inferto our own, and all these Australian ways are run at a los to the colonial genments owning and

He goes on to : "As to the freight rates, it is sufficiepmmentary, perhaps, without going inteall, to say that teamsters haul wood apther country produce from 50 to 150 mileto Sydney on the return trip along wa roads that run parallel throughout tientire course with the government railw: and they do this work at lower rathan are charged by the railways. Co teamsters compete with and take tra from our most extortionate privately ned rallway in this

We have yet to in of a railway system wned or controlls holly or in part by a government that rges as low rates as

#### those paid on Aman lines. McKinley's Nev Falling Courtesy.

From the Chicago it. Speaking of pee who have distinguished themselvey being uniformly poite recalls an incht illustrating the exuisite courtesy wh is one of President McKinley's markeharacteristics. It was on the occasion ahe last public speed which he made inhicago previous to his omination. Withis party he was leaving a crowded liois Central suburban train at the Van ren street station. In the rush a woma neither young, hand ome nor in any y exceptional, stepped between him and ase who were escorting im to the First giment armory, where ne was to speak. Ecognizing him ing that she hadeparated him from his

scort she steppedside, saying: "After you, Mar McKinley. I did not ee that I was owding in between you and your friends." Although the prs was great and the cirumstances such | would have caused any but the most gennely polite man to have passed on with a slightest possible acknowledgment, onone at all, with deferential courteousns and a smile so kindly

#### he halted and thiked the woman for her consideration. Caladty Seekers.

m the New 5rk Sun.

and winning that lighted his whole face

The calamity owler has taken a new role. He has celed to shout that we are seing to the dos. Now he hopes that we ate. It is hare to explain away the imso hard. provement in stional prospects in fact, that the firm of Bryan & Co. find the job too by for them. But they do say: "Wait ad see. Things may look bright now. Theat may be at a dollar. Fectories may be working and all the rest ofit. But youwill see that bad times will come again one more." If these remarkalle patriots sy their prayers, they sup-pleate for a mange for the worse. Cold chimneys, wase fields, paralysis and stag-nation, starvation and want are their hope in trust. Al these things furnish their portunity.

is hard to see how a man can be a gold citizen who puts his private interwib preferato see others doing well, rather than his own kith and kin; who is ready to rejoice over public ills so long as they

#### brig him a private advantage. Trouble Averted. From the Chicago Record. 't is a good thing the Slamese twins

dead. Why?" Suppose one of them wanted to ride a thel and the other one didn't." Effective Campaign Poetry.

From the New York Sun.

We have already mentioned with due traise the poetry button, which says: "From heel to toe I'm for Seth Low." It seems that there are also poets in the wake of the great nonpartisan moving which is moving the Honorable John Lawrence Sullivan toward the mayoralty of

oston. One of that eminent reformer's "John Sullivan Is the people's man." Another Boston poetry button remarks "John L.

"John L.

Bears the bell."

Neither of these is equal to the button put into circulation at the C. U. head-quarters yesterday. This says:

"While I have breath I'll shout for Seth."

That has the true ring and spirit, the absolute dedication and consecration.

Happy Thought.

From the Boston Globe.

Mrs. Lease going to the Klondike? Ah, there, Mary Lizziel Stay there!

SUNSET.

The river sleeps beneath the sky, And clasps the shadows to its breast; The crescent moon shines dim on high; And in the lately radiant west The gold is fading into gray.

Now stills the larks his festive lay. And mourns with me the dying day. While in the south the first faint star Lifts to the night its silver face, And twinkles to the moon afar

#### Across the heaven's graying space, Low murmurs reach me from the town, As Day puts on her sombre crown, And shakes her mantle darkly down. -Paul Laurence Dunbar.

THE CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER.

We were crowded in the cabin; Not a soul would dare to sleep; It was midnight on the waters, And a storm was on the deep.

'Tis a fearful thing in winter

To be shattered by the blast, And to hear the rattling trumpet Thunder, "Cut away the mast!" So we shuddered there in silence; For the stoutest held his breath,

While the hungry sea was roaring. And the breakers talked with Death. And as thus we sat in darkness, Each one busy in his prayers, "We are lost!" the captain shouted,

As he staggered down the stairs. But his little daughter whispered. As she took his icy hand,

'Isn't God upon the ocean Just the same as on the land?" Then we kissed the little maiden, And we spoke in better cheer; And we anchored safe in harbor. When the morn was shining clear

### THE ARTIST'S VOWS.

-Iames T Fields.

in youth the artist voweth lover's vows To Art; in manhood maketh her his spouse, Well if her charms yet hold for him such

As when he craved some boon and she was -William Watson.

# OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Last October Albert Johnson, with s back broken at the lumbar vertebrae, two broken heels, and a body paralyzed from the chest down, was admitted to the Long Island college hospital, Brooklyn. Now Dr. Gels, the house surgeon, entertains hopes that he may entirely recover. For three months the paralysis was complete. He was placed on a water bed with his legs in splints. In January Johnson was able to move his feet. By the middle of the month his knees, and now he can raise and bend his legs from the hips. In April he was placed on a regular bed. Now, with assistance, he can move around crutches. The fractures have healed, the muscles are coming into use, and weakness seems to be the greatest trouble. Should his recovery be complete it will be an evidence of great surgical skill.

The Railway and Engineering Review says, in speaking of the meal service of rallroads: "If railroads catered less to the wealthy classes and endeavored to furnish better accommodations to people of moderate means at reasonable prices there might be more of a disposition on the part of the public to regard such corporations in a spirit of fairness than is at present apparent. Matters of this kind, although of rather minor importance, might go a long way toward softening some of the unleasant relations existing between citizen and corporation and the averting of a vast amount of useless agitation over supposed grievances.'

The kinsmen of the man who ordered the firing of the shot "heard round the world" held a reunion last week at Concord, Mass. His name was Major John Buttrick. The family mansion in that town is now occupled by two great-granddaughters, and there they entertained 178 relatives from many different states. Everyone who to a prominent part in the exercises was a Buttrick, including the preacher, orators, essayists and musicians. At the conclusion of the programme a permanent organiza-

tion was formed. South American lovers have a pretty cus-tom. It is well known that when the petals of the great laurel magnolia are touched, however lightly, the result is a brown spot, which develops in a few hours. This fact is taken advantage of by the lover, who pulls a magnolia flower, and on one of its pure, white petals writes a motto or mes-sage with a hard, sharp-pointed pencil. he sends the flower, the young lady puts it in a vase of water, and in three or four hours the message written on the leaf

becomes quite visible and remains so. Mrs. Livermore is a believer in co-opera-tive housekeeping, and holds that a saving of from 12 to 15 per cent in purchases could be made by a combination of twenty-five families. If the bills of fare were prepared by one set of cooks another large saving would result. "Who can estimate," Mrs. Livermore says, in conclusion, "the grigain that will enrich housekeepers who mothers of families when cooking a laundering are eliminated from house industries and are performed outside t

home by economical co-operation?" Kaiser Wilhelm's Russian Barsot house travels in a third class railroad carriag with an attendant, ten tickets being bought for him, as he will not go in a baggage car and objects to strangers. He once jumped from a train going at full speed, but was unhurt. A peasant found him and took care of him till he discovered the owner and that the kaiser valued the dog at \$4500. He then returned the dog with a bill for \$450, "the finder's legal 10 per cent." The kaiser cut the bill down to \$60.

A widower on Long Island has fitted up like a living room the vault where the remains of his wife repose. It is furnished with tables and chairs, bric-a-brac is given place, a clock ticks on a shelf, a canary sings in its cage, and a squirrel spins round on its wheel. An empty coffin is ready for its occupant in the course of time. The widower spends several hours there daily. But it is said that the cemetery authorities are likely to interfere with this in

sion of their customs. B. Fay Mills, the evangelist, who been drifting away from a belief in servative theology for some time, make public statement of his present belie which shows that he is largely in sympat with Unitarianism. "I now expect," says, "to present a statement of my potion to my presbytery and association their next meetings in September and C tober and allow them to act as may see

wise to them." Rufus D. Shuptring, a farmer of Safford Ala., noticed some time ago that one o his cows was not giving her usual quantity of milk, and, thinking that some of the negroes were milking the cow at night, he set out to watch her, when, to his surprise, he saw four pigs out of a litter of six sitting under the cow enjoying an evening meal. He says the pigs are getting sleek and fat, while the cow has fallen of considerably.

On one occasion P. T. Barnum walked into Dr. Collyer's church just as the preacher entered the pulpit. Barnum was put in a back sent. The clergyman sp him, and leaning over the reading desk said: "Will that usher please take Mr. Barnum to my pew? When I go to his show he always gives me a front seat. I don't see why he shouldn't fare equally as well at 'my show.'

The design of the monument to the late Senator Zebulon B. Vance, at Asheville N. C., has been decided upon. It will be shaft about seventy-five feet high, the core of which will be of brick and the surface of granite. It will stand in the public square in front of the court house.